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Detroit District

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News Release

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Gull Island use license scheduled for one-year

DETROIT – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District granted a license to the “We Are Here Foundation” for use and clean-up of Gull Island, St. Clair Flats Canal, a Federal Navigation Project in Clay Township, St. Clair County, Mich.

The license agreement, starting June 13, 2005 and ending June 12, 2006, authorizes We Are Here to conduct clean-up activities, water monitoring activities and other environmental studies.

This one-year agreement, with the possibility of renewal, requires periodic cleanup operations on Gull Island for the benefit of the general public, the first one will commence during the weekend of June 24, 2005.

During this clean-up effort the general public is restricted from using the island until June 27, 2005. Local law enforcement supports this clean-up effort and will ensure the restriction is enforced.

We Are Here Foundation meets Department of the U.S. Army License Requirements, because they are a nonprofit organization, are willing to manage the cleanup operations, and have a substantial history of performing cleanup operations on Lake St. Clair, including Gull Island.

Gull Island, approximately 4 acres of land above water with more than one-hundred acres under water, is located in Lake St. Clair at the convergence of the old channel cut and the St. Clair Flats Canal.

During this licensing agreement the general public will continue to have access to the island on a passive recreation basis. Any formal use will need permission from the grantee and Clay Township. Until a plan can be work out to address reservations for group use no formal requests are being accepted.

For further information concerning this agreement or any Corps Great Lakes region real estate agreement contact Vic Kotwicki at 313-226-3480.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District civil works program encompasses 82,000 square miles of land inhabited by about 14 million people in Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Ohio. The Corps operates and/or maintains 94 harbors. Its mission includes real estate transactions, flood control, regulatory activities, disaster response, and mobilization readiness.